

AMENDMENTSIn the Claims:

1-8 (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:  
that receives inputs through a plurality of input apparatuses, each input apparatus  
respectively having a different level levels of ease of use,-comprising:

a setter that sets an operation of the processing apparatus in accordance with an input entered through an input operation performed on an input apparatus among the plurality of input apparatuses; and

a controller that determines an automatic-clear time for the input apparatus on which the input operation was performed based on the level of ease of use associated with the input apparatus, wherein a different automatic-clear time is determined for each of the plurality of input apparatuses, and if another input operation is not performed on the input apparatus during the determined automatic-clear time, executes an automatic-clear function to clear the set operation to an initially set default.

10. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 9 further comprising  
a receiver that receives an extension request entered by a user to extend the determined automatic-clear time, wherein

the controller extends the determined automatic-clear time after the receiver receives the extension request.

11. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 9 further comprising  
an identifying unit that identifies the input apparatus on which the input operation was performed, wherein

the controller identifies the input apparatus from a result of the identification by the identifying unit.

12. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 11, wherein  
the input apparatus transmits, to the identifying unit, identification information that identifies the input apparatus on which the input operation was performed, and

the identifying unit identifies the input apparatus based on the identification information transmitted from the input apparatus.

13. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 9 further comprising  
a table storing data of automatic-clear times respectively corresponding to the plurality of input apparatuses, wherein

the controller reads data of an automatic-clear time corresponding to the input apparatus on which the input operation was performed, and determines the automatic-clear time of the read data as the automatic-clear time for the input apparatus.

14. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 13, wherein the data stored in the table can be rewritten.

15. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 9, wherein the controller determines a longer automatic-clear time

for an input apparatus that is universal-design-compliant than for an input apparatus that is not universal-design-compliant.

16. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 9, wherein the controller determines an automatic-clear time for an

object input apparatus in a manner where the longer an interval between input operations in the object input apparatus is expected to be, the longer the automatic-clear time determined for the object input apparatus is.

17. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 9, wherein at least one of the plurality of input apparatuses is

connected to the image processing apparatus via a network.

18. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 9, wherein at least one of the plurality of input apparatuses is

connected to a terminal apparatus that is connected to the image processing apparatus via a network.

19. (Original) The image processing apparatus of Claim 18, wherein after executing the automatic-clear function, the

controller notifies the terminal apparatus of a fact that the controller has executed the automatic-clear function.

20-22. (Cancelled).